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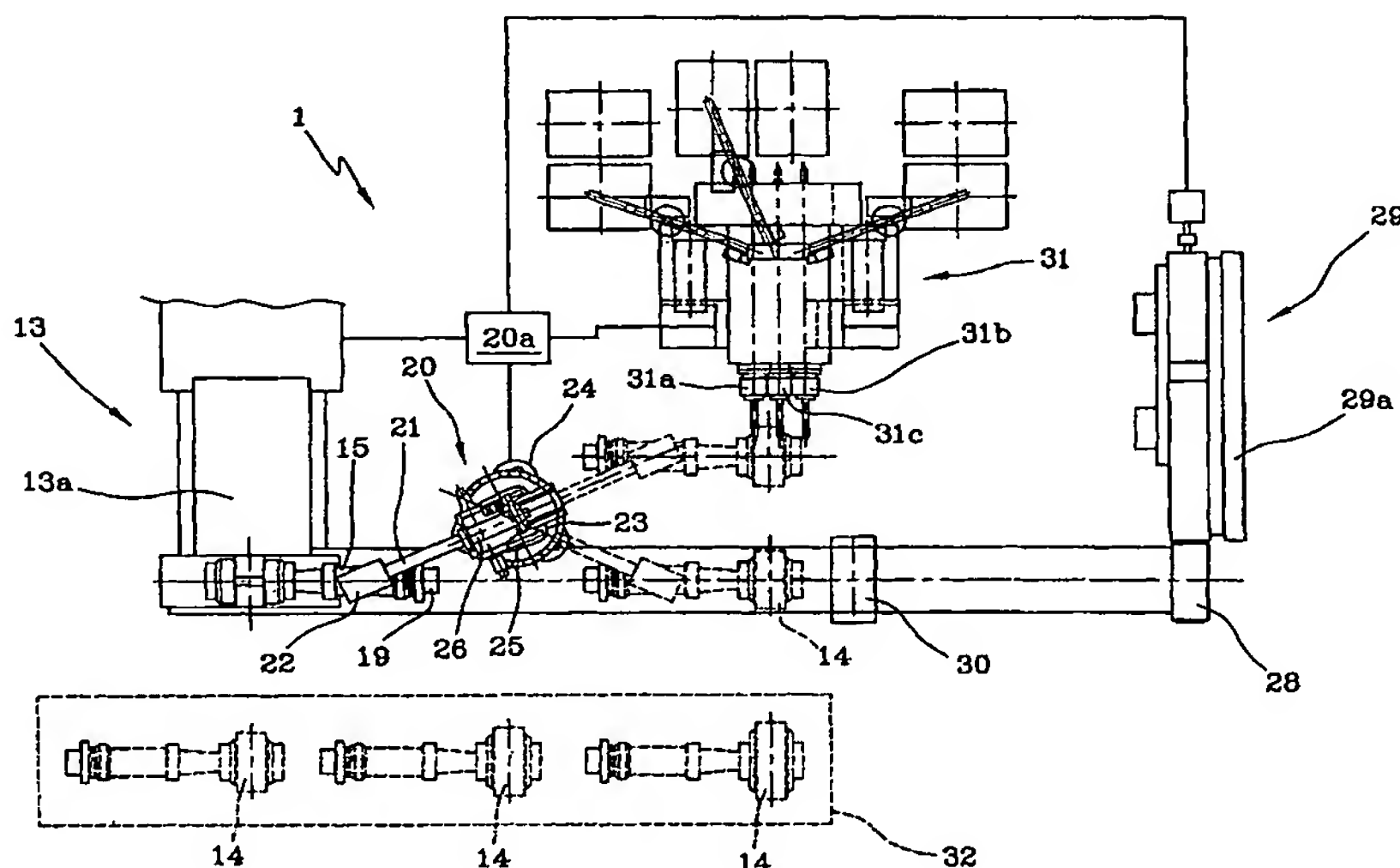
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING TYRES FOR VEHICLE WHEELS



(57) Abstract: The carcass structure (3) of a tyre (2) is produced on a drum (14) having a proximal half (14a) and a distal half (14b) that can be mutually approached to determine a radial expansion of the carcass ply (10) until bringing it against the belt structure (49) carried by a transfer member (30). The proximal half (14a) is axially integral with a support structure (15) carried by a robotized arm (21) of an actuating unit (20) transmitting an axial movement to the proximal half (14a), while the distal half (14b) carries out a translation following a stroke the amount of which is twice that of the stroke transmitted by the robotized arm (21). The robotized arm transfers the drum (14) to a unit for application of an elongated element to form a tread band (5) on the belt structure (4) and /or a pair of sidewalls (6) at axially external positions on the carcass structure (3).



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.